

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS.

DEMAND I—PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): Sir, I beg to move for a Supplementary grant not exceeding Rs. 40,380 for the following public works;—

	Rs.
(i) Improvements to the Taluk Police Station, Quilon...	2,200
(ii) Improvements to the road from Tannimudu to the Government Silk farm at Vettampalli ...	850
(iii) Completion of the 'Science block' in the Women's College, Trivandrum ...	18,000
(iv) Repairs to the right bank of the Pannivaikal ...	1,140
(v) Sinking of a well in Putukadai ...	980
(vi) Improvements to the Punalur-Vadasserikara road...	7,740
(vii) Improvements to the Iron Girder bridge, and the fish market bridge at Kayankulam ...	4,670
(vii) Alterations in the General Hospital buildings in connection with the installation of X-ray apparatus and electric fans ...	4,800

PRESIDENT: May I take it that the House grants this demand?

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayankil*): The motion has not been supported by any explanation. This is something like a supplementary budget and not a Supplementary demand. After enumerating the details, the member has simply sat down. We cannot understand the urgency of the demand.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Ramaswami Aiyar, will you kindly explain the need for which all these various sums are required?

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): Will the learned member kindly say under what rule of the Legislative Council Rules he is making this demand?

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Sir, I rise to a point of order. I wish to know whether under Rule 56 any member can move a motion to omit or reduce any grant without giving notice of five clear days.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): Anybody can oppose it.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Piraviperumal Pillai, I am not aware that there has been any motion to omit or reduce the grant.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): I just submit a point of order for your ruling, Sir. I wish to know whether any member can move to reduce or omit a grant without giving notice.

PRESIDENT: The point does not arise here. There has been no motion to omit or reduce the grant.

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): Sir, I made the motion for supplementary grant under Rule 53.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): Is it under sub-clause (i) or (ii) of sub-rule (1) of Rule 53?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): Under both. I shall now take up the first item *viz.*, improvements to the Taluk Poice Station at Quilon—Rs. 2,200.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): Is it because that the amount already sanctioned is insufficient or it is required for a new work?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): It is for a new work not started yet.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): What is the urgency about it that it should be provided for now?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): The floor of the police station buildings at Quilon is on a level with the ground all around. Consequently the floor is very damp and insanitary. So it is desirable to have the work carried out before the monsoon sets in.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): Was not this taken note of at the time of the presentation of the last annual budget?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): No. The matter had not been decided at the time of the presentation of the annual budget. The correspondence from the Police Commissioner had come but the estimate for it was not ready and so the work could not be included in the budget for the year.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): Does not the Public Works Department inspect the Police Stations periodically at least?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): The buildings maintained by the Public Works Department are inspected frequently by the Public Works officers but there is no rule about their inspecting periodically buildings which are not maintained by that department. As I said before it is very desirable to have the police station work at Quilon carried out before the monsoon sets in.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know from the member whether the monsoon has not already set in?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): The monsoon has not set in.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know when the Police Commissioner reported about the bad condition of the station buildings?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): I am sorry I have not got the information. But the estimate could not be prepared before the presentation of the budget for the year.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): I think it is necessary that this supplementary grant may be put to the vote of the House one item after another.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Kayalam Paramesvaran Pillai, what is the procedure?

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): It is left to the discretion of the President.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): In this case the demand relates to different departments.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): The items may be put to the vote separately.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Madhavan Pillai, whether I accede to your request or not will depend entirely on how much time the House takes over this matter, because if the House feels that it wants to go into this in detail, item after item, I shall be very happy to accede to your request. But if the sense of the House is that it will be prepared to go on with the business and not linger on the items, then I shall give weight to the wishes of the House and decide accordingly. Therefore I first of all put it to the House whether they wish all these eight demands making a total of about forty thousand rupees to be voted on separately or in lump, department by department. Will the members who are in favour of voting in detail, item by item, kindly hold up their hands?

I see that there are 18 for voting separately.

Now will the members in favour of voting departmentally, *en bloc*, kindly hold up their hands?

There are 16 for this.

I think those in favour of voting in detail win by a majority of two.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): May I know whether this is in regard to the discussion or only about the voting? I may say that the usual practice is that the discussion first takes place about all the items and at the time of voting each item is taken separately.

PRESIDENT: Is that your intention, Mr. Madhavan Pillai?

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): That refers only where the items refer to one department. But here different departments come in.

PRESIDENT: It is only the Public Works Department at present.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): But we have here the Public Works Department dealing with several other departments.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): My point was whether Mr. Ramaswami Aiyar should explain the first item and then sit down and after the voting on that item is over he should proceed with the next. If so, I may say that such a thing is not usually done.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Mr. Ramaswami Aiyar may explain the necessity for each of these items and then the House may also discuss them. But at the time of voting each item may be put separately.

PRESIDENT : Then the House shall follow that procedure.

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): The second item is about improvements to the road from Tannimudu to the Government Silk Farm at Vettampalli for which Rs. 850 is needed. The Director of Agriculture has been pressing for the improvements to this road. It is a very narrow road and it is only half a mile long. He says that he is experiencing very great difficulty in transporting manure and he has been pressing for a very long time to make the road fit for easy cart traffic. It will not only be useful for the farm but also to agriculturists in paddy lands beyond the farm and also the forest coupe beyond it. If improvements are not done now, during the monsoon the road will become well-nigh impossible for traffic.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): When did the Director bring it to the notice of the Public Works Department? Did he not do it before the preparation of the annual budget?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): It was a year and a half ago. Since then an estimate has been prepared and the matter has been in correspondence as to whether the road should be converted into a pucca road at a very heavy cost or whether a narrow road would do. The Director eventually agreed to have a 12 feet wide road. By that time the budget had been prepared.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): Cannot the matter wait for two or three months more?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): It is the impending monsoon that makes me press for it now. The Director of Agriculture would like it to be done soon.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know when this particular silk farm was started there?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): About six years ago.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): And this necessity has not been felt during these six years?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): The road has deteriorated in recent times on account of traffic.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Is there not any provision for the annual maintenance of this road?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): No.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Not under the P. W. D.

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): It is not a regular road. It is only a cart track and there is no annual maintenance grant for it under the P. W. D.

MR. K. SIVARAMA PANIKKAR (*Shertallai*): May I know from the member whether any sum was allotted in the last budget for the improvement of this road?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): No sum was allotted.

MR. K. SIVARAMA PANIKKAR (*Shertallai*): Has the fact been brought to the notice of the Government that the road was in a very bad condition and so it required improvement?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): There has been correspondence about the road between the Government and the Director of Agriculture.

MR. K. SIVARAMA PANIKKAR (*Shertallai*): Was the unsatisfactory condition of the road brought to the notice of the Department then?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): As I said at first the unsatisfactory condition of the road was brought to the notice of the Public Works Department more than a year ago.

MR. K. SIVARAMA PANIKKAR (*Shertallai*): May I know why the sum was not allotted during the budget session last year?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): Because the matter had not matured and no sum could be allotted without any idea of the work to be done.

MR. K. SIVARAMA PANIKKAR (*Shertallai*): May I know for how long people will have to wait for a matter to mature in the Public Works Department?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): It will depend upon the urgency of each case.

MR. K. SIVARAMA PANIKKAR (*Shertallai*): Do the Government note that this road is only a small road and after all it is not so very important, the only importance being that it leads to a silk farm? As it is, it could have been decided without so much consideration and without waiting so long even last year.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Am I to understand that my friend is making a speech?

MR. K. SIVARAMA PANIKKAR (*Shertallai*): No, I am only putting some questions.

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): As I said it is useful not only for the silk farm but also for agriculturists. The question as to whether it should be made into a pucca road very wide or whether it would be enough to make a narrow cart road out of it had to be considered.

MR. K. SIVARAMA PANIKKAR (*Shertallai*): Will the department see that it is more prompt in such cases?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): No case has been made out to show that there has not been sufficient promptitude in this case.

MR. K. SIVARAMA PANIKKAR (*Shertallai*): Do the Government know that there are special cases which require prompt action and those things are not attended to?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): I am not aware.

MR. K. SIVARAMA PANIKKAR (*Shertallai*): If the member wishes to know may I bring to his notice the fact that the roads in Shertallai are very narrow and very untidy and that there is a car now waiting to run since the last two or three months but could not do so? I think the Police Commissioner will testify to that.

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): I thank the member for the information.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether the member is allowed to talk about the Police Department?

MR. K. SIVARAMA PANIKKAR (*Shertallai*): I think I am perfectly at liberty to do so because a grant in the Public Works Department covers all departments in Travancore.

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): I believe the appointment of the new Chief Engineer will settle the matter at once.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): May I know from the member whether there was any demand from the people of the locality about the road.

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): I do not find from the correspondence any demand from the people.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): May I know whether any amount was spent for the repair of this road at any time?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): No, not a pie.

I shall go to the next item, that is, the completion of the 'Science Block' in the Women's College, Trivandrum—Rs. 18,000. In the budget for the year a sum of Rs. 15,000 had been allotted for this work. Out of this about Rs. 5,000 were diverted for providing an office room for the Lady Principal. On account of pressure for space for class rooms, a new structure was put up over the portico for the office room, and the old one was converted into a class room. Now only Rs. 10,000 are left. It has been decided on the recommendation of the Director of Public Instruction to open the B. A. classes as well as Group II of the Intermediate class in the coming school year. The minimum accommodation needed for opening these classes has to be provided before the college reopens. A general plan has been prepared for a two storied building for the extensions to the college and, out of these, three rooms in the lower storey and three rooms in the upper storey at one end of the proposed building have to be completed before July. No estimate has been prepared yet. For finishing these rooms a sum of Rs. 28,000 is needed. Already Rs. 10,000 are available in the budget, and this motion is for the grant of the balance of Rs. 18,000.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Was it for this extension that Rs. 15,000 was sanctioned in the budget?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): Yes.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Now you want Rs. 28,000 for the same?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): On the whole Rs. 28,000 are required. But there are already Rs. 10,000.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know how the original estimate was too small?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): At that time no estimates had been prepared and no conclusion had been arrived at as to the classes which should be opened in the coming school year.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): What was the basis on which the demand was made?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): It was just to start the work.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Without estimates?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): The estimates had not been prepared by that time.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know from the member whether it is the practice of the department to get an allotment sanctioned before the estimate is ready?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): The practice is to make a provision in the budget only after the plans and estimates are prepared and sanctioned, but in urgent cases where an urgent matter comes to the notice of the department and there is not time to prepare plans and estimates funds are provided in anticipation.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): What was the basis for arriving at the figure Rs. 10,000?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): As I said, it was merely to start the work. The need for such a building is established when the grant is allotted; then it is only a question of providing afterwards whatever additional funds are found necessary.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Am I to understand that the sum of Rs. 10,000 provided for already has been spent?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): Rs. 15,000 were provided for out of which Rs. 5,000 have been spent for the other building, and Rs. 10,000 are left. I have not got the figure which has been spent up to date on this structure. I think that not even Rs. 10,000 would have been spent till now.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Are the estimates and plans ready?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): The plans and estimates are not ready yet.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know from the member if Rs. 18,000 are required for the completion of the building?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): The amount is required for the completion of the portion taken up.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Has the work been started?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): Yes, and it has to be completed before the college reopens.

The next item is repairs to the right bank of the Pannivaikal — Rs. 1,140. On account of the breaches in the bund, the Excise Commissioner has been complaining that fresh water gets into the reservoirs of the Rajakkamangalam Salt Factory and affects the quality of the brine and he says that the earlier the breaches are closed the better it will be for the salt factories. So it is proposed to carry out this work also immediately.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Is there any estimate in regard to that work?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): Yes. There is a sanctioned estimate.

Then, in regard to the sinking of a well in Putnkadai, the Sanitary Commissioner has been bringing to the notice of the Government the need for it. There is a well already there, but it gets dried up in summer. The people have been very anxious to get a good well and have even handed over free of compensation a site for the well and this estimate is only for the cost of sinking the well.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): Was there no provision made for the sinking of wells under Sanitary Department in the annual budget?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): There is provision for some wells.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): How many wells have been sunk?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): The provision has been appropriated for wells that have been taken up and there is no money left. Hence the necessity for this motion.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): How many wells have been sunk already?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): I have no information.

As regards improvement to the Punalur-Vadaserikara road, Mr. Farr in a session of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly brought to the notice of the Government the unsatisfactory condition of the road and said that it was practically impossible to take carts along the road in the monsoon months and the Government have promised him that funds would be allotted in 1102. But when the budget was prepared there were other pressing demands and it had not been possible to provide the

[Mr. O. S. Ramaswami Aiyar.]

required funds. It has been again repeatedly brought to the notice of the Government that this work is very urgent and therefore this motion for the grant is made so that this work also may be taken up before the monsoon.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Where does this road lead to?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): From the 18th mile of the Konni-Ranni road to Chittar past Vadaserikara, i. e., from Mannarkulanji to Chittar. The work is to be confined to the first six miles of the road.

MR. KALLUR NARAYANA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): പുനലൂർ റാന്നി റോഡ് എന്നല്ലാതെ പുനലൂർ-വടശേരിക്കര റോഡ് എന്നൊരു റോഡുണ്ടോ?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): I should say that that was the name given by the member and that name has been stuck on to. The appropriate name will be "Mannarkulanji-Chittar road".

MR. KALLUR NARAYANA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): മണ്ണാർകുളത്തി-ചിറ്റാർ റോഡ് ചിറ്റാർ തോട്ടക്കാരുടെ ആവശ്യത്തിനായിട്ടു വെട്ടിച്ചു തല്ലേ?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): Because the member called it by the name of Punalur-Vadaserikara road in his representation in the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly, that name has been kept on in the notice.

MR. KALLUR NARAYANA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): റാന്നി റോഡിൽ ൧൮-ാമത്തെ മയിൽകുററിയിൽനിന്നും മണ്ണാർകുളത്തിക്കും വടശേരിക്കരക്കും എത്ര മൈൽ ദൂരമുണ്ട്?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): Only three and a half miles.

MR. KALLUR NARAYANA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): അതു ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെന്റിലിന്റേതല്ലേ ഉള്ളതാണോ?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): It is a road maintained by the department.

MR. KALLUR NARAYANA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): എസ്റ്റേറ്റിൽനിന്നും അതിലേക്കു പണം ചിലവുചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ടോ?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): The Chittar Estate is ten miles after Vadaserikara.

MR. KALLUR NARAYANA PILLAI (*Pathanamtitta*): എസ്റ്റേറ്റിൽനിന്നും അതിലേക്കു പണം ചിലവുചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ടോ എന്നാണ് ചോദിക്കുന്നത്?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): I am sorry I do not know.

MR. KALLUR NARAYANA PILLAI (*Pattanamtittu*): എസ്റ്റേറ്റിൽനിന്നും പണം ചിലവുചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ടെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അറിവ്.

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): I knew its condition several years ago. Then the road was being maintained by the Government right on from the start to the end at Government cost. I do not know whether in recent years the estate has been contributing towards the maintenance of the road.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Is the proposed road in any way useful to the public?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): It is useful to the public also. I may perhaps mention that it is a road very much used by pilgrims going to Sabarimalai.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): That is only once in a year. But who is mainly benefited by this road, the public or anybody else?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): It is useful to the public too. In fact, the first six miles of the road, where the work is to be done, is open country and I expect that the section of the road will be very useful to the public.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know whether the member has direct knowledge when he stated that the people are using that road when going to Sabarimalai?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): I know that the portion of the road is used.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): My question is whether this road is generally used by the pilgrims.

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): It is not used by those who observe *Vratham* who go to Erumeli and thence to Sabarimalai, but by those who merely go for the Makara Vilakku because it is very easy to go by this road.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): May I know from the member what prompted the Government to give preference to this representation of Mr. Farr when there were other representations regarding improvements to other roads?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): When the road is in a very bad condition the work of improving it is very urgent: for, if neglected, during the monsoon it becomes impassable.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Are there not other roads in a worse condition?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): I cannot say.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Is the member aware that there was a representation made in the second session of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly regarding a road half a mile from Kayikara crossing to Onnampalam about which I had sent several interpellations?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): I am sorry I am not aware of it.

MR. C. P. KUCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara cum Kunnattu*): May I know whether the member has seen this road, and, if so, when?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): Sixteen years ago.

Coming to improvements to the 'Iron Girder' bridge and the 'Fish Market' bridge at Kayankulam, some months ago the 'Iron Girder' bridge at Kayankulam was found unsafe, as a strong current scoured the bed and exposed the blade at the bottom of the screw pile. It would have been dangerous to allow traffic over it, and so the bridge was closed. Subsequently all traffic was diverted over the 'Fish Market' bridge; but then the latter could not stand the strain of the heavy traffic and a portion of the abutment cracked. So traffic over that bridge also had to be stopped for a few days. The President of the Municipality naturally complained about the closing of both the bridges and the 'Fish Market' bridge was temporarily strengthened and reopened for traffic. But it could not take up the increased traffic endlessly. Therefore the 'Iron Girder' bridge has to be restored at the earliest possible date.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): May I know if after the improvements have been made, motor vehicles can travel at a speed of 20 miles per hour over this bridge?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): Motor vehicles can go at any speed.

The next item relates to a provision of Rs. 4,800 for alterations in the General Hospital buildings in connection with the installation of X-ray apparatus and electric fans. The expert of the General Electric Company inspected and found that the proper place for the installation of the X-ray apparatus was the Resident Medical Officer's quarters. So it is decided to convert the Resident Medical officer's quarters as the building for the installation of the X-ray and to convert the present X-ray building as quarters of the Resident Medical Officer. These works are already in progress. Hence this grant is applied for.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): I was not able to follow Mr. Ramaswami Aiyar exactly because I didn't hear him when he was speaking about the sinking of a well at Putukadai. I wish to know the exact altitude of the place which requires the well for which Rs. 960 is demanded.

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): I do not know the exact altitude, but I expect the site must be pretty high as the estimate provides for a depth of 93 feet for the well.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Can the member give us the average expenditure incurred for digging a well by the department?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): It would not be right to strike an average cost for wells. A well could be sunk for Rs. 25, and wells have cost Rs. 5,000.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): May I know if the cost depends on the dimensions of the well?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): The dimensions of the well are not the only factors that go to make up the cost.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): May I know the dimensions of this well?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI RIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): The estimate provides 93 feet as the depth.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): Was any experiment conducted in this locality with the assistance of a boring machine?

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): No.

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): If the general discussion now proceeds, how will the member for the department know whether the allotment made for his department is going to be accepted or not and whether I can speak for item No. (i) if any objection is raised to it?

PRESIDENT: You can wait till the very end.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): If any member touches on that matter he can speak in reply.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): How can he reply?

PRESIDENT: He can express his views.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): That is true, but there can be no reply.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Sir, in connection with the sinking of a well at Putukadai, I have only to point out that the Public Works Department is an extravagant department. Having some recent experience in digging a well, 120 feet deep, the cost of which came only to Rs. 250, I should say that the Engineering Department being an expert department must be able to do the work at a less cost.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know the nature of the soil?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): That is exactly what I wanted to know. But Mr. Ramaswami Aiyar was not in a position to give me an exact idea of the locality, altitude and nature of the soil, etc.

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): May I know whether fair wages were paid to the depressed classes for digging it? (*Laughter.*)

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Certainly.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether he employed any contractor?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): I did the whole thing myself. Other things being considered equal, I should consider that an expert body like the Engineering Department must be able to do it at a cheaper

[Mr. A. K. Pillai.]

rate than others. But what we generally find is that they are spending much more than private people. What I wanted to show by this particular instance is that the Public Works [Department is spending a good deal for the middlemen and the contractors and many members are aware of the state of things. I am not against the digging of the well for the people of Putukadai but only want to speak about the extravagance of the department.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*): പുതുക്കട എന്നസ്ഥലം ഏന്റെ നിരോജകമണ്ഡലത്തിൽ ഉൾപ്പെട്ടതുകൊണ്ട് ഏന്റെ സ്റ്റേഷൻ മിസ്റ്റർ ഏ. കെ. പിള്ള പറഞ്ഞ അഭിപ്രായത്തിനു സമാധാനമായിട്ടു രണ്ടുവാക്കു പറയാതിരിക്കാൻ നിവർത്തിയില്ല. പുതുക്കട ഒരു കിണറു കഴിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനു നൂറു രൂപാ കൊണ്ട് എങ്ങിനെ പബ്ലിക് വർക്ക് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റുകാക്കു സാധിക്കുമെന്നു ഞാൻ ആശ്ചര്യപ്പെട്ടുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുമ്പോഴാണ് മിസ്റ്റർ ഏ. കെ. പിള്ള ഇങ്ങിനെ ഒരഭിപ്രായം പറപ്പെടുവിച്ചത്. ഇപ്പോൾ നൂറു രൂപാ അനുവദിച്ചാൽ തന്നെയും കിണറു മുഴുവൻ കഴിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിന് ഇനി ഒരിക്കൽ കൂടി കൂടുതലായിട്ടു പണം അനുവദിക്കേണ്ടിവരും ഇതിനടുത്തു തന്നെ കരിങ്കൽ ചന്തയിൽ ഒരു കിണറുവെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്. ആ കിണററിനു ൫,൦൦൦ രൂപയ്ക്കുമേൽ ചിലവായിട്ടുണ്ട്. എന്നിട്ടും വെള്ളം കിട്ടിയില്ല. അതു പോലെയുള്ള ഒരു സ്ഥലമാണു പുതുക്കട. മിസ്റ്റർ ഏ. കെ. പിള്ള പറഞ്ഞ സ്ഥലത്തിനും പുതുക്കടയ്ക്കും തമ്മിൽ യാതൊരു സാമ്യവുമില്ല. മിസ്റ്റർ ഏ. കെ. പിള്ള പറഞ്ഞ കിണറു സാധാരണ ആയുധങ്ങളെ കൊണ്ടു വെട്ടാവുന്നതാണ്. ഇവിടെയാകട്ടെ പാരായ്ക്കു തുച്ഛമായ മണ്ണാണ്. പിക്കാസ്സുകൊണ്ടു വെട്ടിയാൽ പോലും മണ്ണു ഇളകുകയില്ല.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): എന്ത് ആയുധം കൊണ്ടുവെട്ടിയാൽ കഴിയും?

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*): പിക്കാസ്സ് കൊണ്ടു വെട്ടിയാൽ കഴിയും. അതുകൊണ്ട് ഈ കിണററിനു നൂറു രൂപാ അനുവദിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ട് യാതൊരു ഭോഷവുമില്ല. പക്ഷേ അതുകൊണ്ടു മതിയാകുമോ എന്നു സംശയമാണ്. ആ സ്ഥലത്തെപ്പറ്റി ശരിയായ അറിവു ഇല്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ടാണ് നൂറു രൂപയ്ക്കു അടങ്കൽ കൊണ്ടുവന്നിട്ടുള്ളത്. മിസ്റ്റർ ഏ. കെ. പിള്ള പറഞ്ഞ അഭിപ്രായം ഒരു ടെറിലാറണുകൊണ്ടു വന്നതാണെന്നു മാത്രമേ ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നുള്ളൂ. ആ സ്ഥലം വന്നുനോക്കിയാൽ ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞ സംഗതി ശരിയാണെന്ന് അദ്ദേഹത്തിനു തൃപ്തിപ്പെടുന്നതാണ്.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovale*): I wish to assure you, Sir, that I do not like to speak on the economic aspect of the demand. My friend Mr. A. K. Pillai has been complaining about the extravagance of the department. Perhaps he does not know that the department has got several experienced experts and experts necessarily imply experiments and experiments mean great expenditure. As I understand from Mr. Ramaswami Aiyar, sometimes demands are being made for the construction of works without previous preparation of plans or any estimate. So I do not like to speak anything about the economic or the extravagant side of the question. But, however, I must confess to this House that the department seems to be extremely susceptible to the vociferous section of this Council. I am emboldened to say that because as soon as I saw Mr. T. Kumara Pillai rising up he began saying that Putukadai is situated in his own constituency. Sir, I want to stress that it is good that this department should listen to at least the vociferous section of the public, but it is highly imperative on the part of the Government to see that the department gives all due care and attention to the requirements and necessities, *i. e.*, the construction of roads or wells or buildings or even police stations voluntarily and bring them to the attention of the Government to do the necessary repairs and works and do the necessary construction. At least from this session forwards the department should change its own usual practice, that is to say, of bringing forward to this House demands without preparing plans and estimates and of exclusively attending to the vociferous section of the public. It is really deplorable to find that the head of the department is moved only if the Government be pressed by a demand. What I want to say is that this department on its own basis without its attention being drawn to certain requirements or improvements should go into questions which are highly imperative and at the same time useful and beneficial to the people at large. I wish to conclude by saying that this department, as it is done elsewhere, must prepare plans and estimates and then bring forward the demand for grant necessary for a particular item. At the same time, they must have an eye all over the State and must listen to the various complaints for roads, for communications of urgent necessity, etc. With these words, I hope that at least from this time forwards we will have the millennium.

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*) (*Deputy President*): Are we to understand that Mr. Sivatanu Pillai opposes any item?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovale*): Certainly not.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, I risk merely to point out that the view which Mr. Sivatanu Pillai has just expressed is erroneous. If we are to follow Mr. Sivatanu Pilla and not provide for works unless plans and estimates are previously got ready, then our budget of "new works" at the commencement of the year would be practically nil.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovale*): May I know whether it cannot be done by a token demand?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Token demand may be only one rupee and the work cannot be carried out during the year with that one rupee. The necessity for new works comes before Government throughout the year and many of the members of the Council and the Assembly often bring to the notice of the Government the urgency of particular works. If the Government are to make the demands after the plans and estimates are got ready, then such urgent works could not be provided for. It is in order that the works may not be postponed that we first provide for works urgently necessary. The P. W. budget is divided into two sections; one for 'incomplete works' and another for 'new works'. If Mr. Sivatanu Pillai's interpretation is approved, there will be a great cry against the P. W. D.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether he does not approve the fact that the members of the Treasury Bench should be equipped with facts before they come up for supplementary grant?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I cannot gainsay that.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know if sanctioned amounts for works are often allowed to lapse?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I am not aware of that. Provision is made in the budget, but the construction is taken up only after the estimates are sanctioned.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): Should they not be ready with plans and estimates when a demand is made by the P. W. D.?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): What I say is that the Public Works Department cannot be ready with the estimates before the taking up of the work is decided upon and the money is provided for by the Council.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): Should they not be ready with facts when they make their proposals?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The rule that the budget should follow the estimate cannot now be acted upon after the constitution of the present Legislative Council. But it does not become necessary that the estimate should precede the budget. Many works have to be provided for for which there are no estimates.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Sir, while I entirely agree with the Chief Secretary that urgent works should be provided for, I wish to know how a certain work can be decided as urgent or not. The explanation offered by Mr. Ramaswami Aiyar with regard to the improvement of the Punalur-Vadasserikara Road is that Mr. Farr represented in the Assembly that the road was in a bad condition and required improvement. When I asked him whether there were any other roads which were in a worse condition and required more urgent improvements, my friend replied that he was not aware.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know how he compares the other roads?

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*) : Sir, I will explain. The member will please wait. There are other roads improvements for which have been demanded ever since the second session of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly. With regard to the road from Parur market to the boat jetty and the road from the Kayikara crossing to Onnampalam I asked several interpellations ever since I became a member of this council and I am sorry to say that they have not been answered as yet. Mr. Ramaswami Aiyar also said that he was not aware of the representations made by the member regarding the Kayikara crossing. All that I wish to say is that when you pitch upon the improvement of a road, the Government will please see which is more urgent and which is in a bad condition. I do not therefore think that Mr. Ramaswami Aiyar is justified in saying that the improvement to this road is urgent when he is not aware of other roads which are in need of urgent improvements and repairs.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*) : Sir, as some members on this side of the House have already submitted, I do not wish to oppose the improvement of these roads. I also say I do not wish to examine the merits of the motion. But the nature of the demand in the present instance seems to throw some light as to how the P. W. D. comes forward with such demands. The Chief Secretary to Government said a little while ago that when demands for roads are made by members of the Council and the Popular Assembly, the Government view such demands as necessary and look upon them as urgent. Probably it is intended as an explanation for the urgency evinced in connection with these two or three roads. In the present instance, the demand for the silk farm road has been made by one of the members of this House, Dr. Kunjan Pillai and for the Punalur-Vadasserikara road by a member of the Popular Assembly. If the learned Chief Secretary would only look back upon the demands for roads made by the members of the Assembly and Legislative Council, the Government would not seem to have been actuated by any idea of emergency or even necessity in many cases. What we see in the present instance is otherwise. I am myself not in a position to say anything about the Vadasserikara road or to what extent the people of Travancore will be benefited by that road. I heard now that a portion of that road is serviceable periodically for the movement of the pilgrims who betake themselves to Sabarimala. If that is the main purpose intended to be served, the wisdom of spending money on that road seems to be open to question. Further, these pilgrims do not want to pass over these roads but only through forest tracts. That is the main idea which inspires their pilgrimage. If the P. W. D. save them the trouble they may not be blessing the P. W. D.

Then with respect to the other road, Mr. Ramaswami Aiyar agreed that so far as he knows there has been no demand for it from any of the villagers there. All the same, we take into consideration the demand as quite serious when it is made by Dr. Kunjan Pillai. Mr. Ramaswami Aiyar said it will prove useful to agriculture and other pursuits of life. So the one thing is that the P. W. D. must have the prompting of some welcome voice as to the need for a particular road

[Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai.]

and then the matter flares up before them. I am here contrasting the other aspect of this question, namely, the request from the ordinary members of this House and not the official members, and the ordinary members of the Popular Assembly which the P. W. D. have not taken into consideration. There are long standing demands and yet I am surprised to hear that when a member of the Popular Assembly or of the Legislative Council makes a demand, the Government will consider that as urgent. The sluggishness of action regarding such demands is a question to be considered; so also the urgency of this kind of demand by the Government. So there is room to look upon such demands not with any evenness of mental level and that should be avoided by the Government as early as possible. It is better that the relative importance and urgency of such demands are considered before they are brought into the Council. It is only with respect to that aspect of the matter I am speaking. With respect to the other item, namely, improvement to the Quilon Police Station, Mr. Pitt seems to be anxious about it and I am not going to oppose his fervour.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): With regard to this motion, I also like to bring to the notice of the Government one aspect of the question. The selection of particular roads or canals as urgent works appears from what transpired here, to be determined by something like favouritism. It appears to border on favouritism when some particular roads or canals are selected because they happen to be pressed upon the attention of the Government by particular people. That ought not to be the attitude of the Government in determining the urgency of particular works. In the matter of public works generally, parts of central and north Travancore are the most neglected portions and I see that no roads or canals are being provided for by these supplementary grants in those portions. Is it because no such demands were made by the representatives of the people from those parts? Certainly not. I myself know of very urgent roads, water-channels and other irrigational requirements in those parts of Travancore. Then again Sertallai, Kartikapalli, Karunagapalli, Ambalapuzha and certain portions of Mavelikara taluk want roads for the transport of manure and agricultural products. They only want roads for agricultural and industrial purposes and not for motor traffic. A provision for an east to west road in all the *pakuthies* of Karunagapalli and Kartikapalli bordering on the lake would facilitate the carrying of manure and assist agriculture. But I find that none of those roads have been taken up as urgent. Then again there is the Pandian channel in Mavelikara taluk and the people are losing their crops because there is no drainage channel and no remission of tax is allowed. Even though such works are urgent I find no such things are brought forward here.

In this connection, I should like to point out that the Government should not take up an attitude of favouritism in these matters, but should go by the urgency of the necessities of particular places and that all portions of Travancore should be fairly treated in the matter of providing roads and other public works. So long as that is not done, I

think it is proper for this House to oppose all such emergency grants that smack of favouritism.

MR. KALLUR NARAYANA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): പുനലൂർ-വടശ്ശേരിക്കര റോഡിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് ഏതാനും ചില മെമ്പറന്മാർ ഇവിടെ സംസാരിച്ചതുകൊണ്ട് ആ റോഡിനെപ്പറ്റി ഏകദേശമായ ഒരു ജ്ഞാനം ഉണ്ടാക്കിക്കൊടുക്കേണ്ടതു് എന്റെ കടമയാണെന്നു ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നു. ഈ റോഡ് പുനലൂർനിന്നും പുറപ്പെട്ടു കോന്നി, പത്തനംതിട്ട, റാന്നി ഈ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ കൂടി വടക്കോട്ടുപോയി മണിമല, കാഞ്ഞിരപ്പള്ളി മുതലായ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലേക്കു പോകുന്ന റോഡാണ്. മദ്ധ്യതീരവിതാംകൂറിൽ മെയിൻ സെൻട്രൽ റോഡുകളിന്താൽ രണ്ടാമതായിട്ടു പ്രാധാന്യം ഉള്ള റോഡു് ഇതാണ്. കൃഷിക്കൊണ്ടും വ്യവസായംകൊണ്ടും കിഴക്കൻ പ്രദേശങ്ങൾ അഭിവൃദ്ധിപ്പെട്ടുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ഇക്കാലത്തു് ഈ റോഡു പരിഷ്കൃതരീതിയിൽ സഞ്ചാരയോഗ്യമാക്കിക്കൊടുക്കേണ്ടതു ഗവർണ്മെന്റിന്റെ കടമയാണ്.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): ഈ സ്ഥലം പരിഷ്കൃതമാതൃകയെ പ്രാപിച്ചിട്ടു് എത്ര സംവത്സരമായി?

MR. KALLUR NARAYANA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): ൧൫ കൊല്ലത്തിൽ കുറയുകയില്ല.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): ഈ റോഡു വെട്ടിട്ടു് എത്ര കൊല്ലമായി?

MR. KALLUR NARAYANA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): ഈ റോഡു് ൧൦ വെ-ൽ വെട്ടി എന്നാണ് എന്റെ അറിവു്. ഈ റോഡിന്റെ ആവശ്യം അധികരിച്ചശേഷമായിരിക്കാം ഈ റോഡു് വെട്ടിയതു്. കോന്നി, റാന്നി, കാഞ്ഞിരപ്പള്ളി, മണിമല മുതലായ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ ധാരാളം എസ്റ്റേറ്റുകൾ ഉണ്ടു്. അതുകളിൽനിന്നും ധാരാളം സാമാനങ്ങൾ കൊണ്ടുവരികയും കൊണ്ടുപോകയും ചെയ്യേണ്ട ആവശ്യമുണ്ടു്. വണ്ടിക്കാർ നാട്ടുകാരാണു്. അവർക്കു റോഡിൽ കൂടി അല്ലാതെ കൊണ്ടുപോകാൻ നിവർത്തിയില്ല. റാന്നി, വടശ്ശേരിക്കര ഇവരണ്ടും വലിയ കച്ചവടസ്ഥലമാണു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഈ റോഡിനെ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ അനാഥസ്ഥിതിയിൽനിന്നും നന്നാക്കിയിടേണ്ടതു് അത്യാവശ്യമാണു്. മിസ്റ്റർ രാമസ്വാമി അയ്യർക്കു് ഈ റോഡിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു ശരിയായജ്ഞാനമില്ല. ശബരിമലയ്ക്കുപോകുന്ന ആളുകൾ ഈ റോഡുവഴിയാണു പോകുന്നതെന്ന് അദ്ദേഹം അഭിപ്രായപ്പെട്ടു. ഈ റോഡു ശബരിമലയ്ക്കുപോകുന്ന റോഡല്ല. ഈ റോഡിനെ കടന്നു വന്നാത്തരത്തിലുള്ള.

[Mr. Kallur Narayana Pillai.]
ശബരിമലയ്ക്ക് ആളുകൾ പോകുന്നുണ്ടെന്നല്ലാതെ ഈ റോഡു ശബരിമലയ്ക്ക് പോകുന്നില്ല എന്നു ഞാൻ ഈ സഭയെ ധരിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): Sir, I think Mr. Raman Menon said that item No. (i) is not required on the ground of favouritism. I should like to say one word about that. The favouritism that the Government have admittedly shown is not to the Commissioner of Police or the station-house officer at Quilon, but to the prisoners in the lock-up. The prisoners in the Quilon police station-house are not locked up in proper sanitary places.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I ask Mr. Pitt when he reported the matter to the Government?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): After Mr. A. K. Pillai brought up the matter in the Council. I know that the level of the floor there is lower than that of the surrounding ground. When Mr. A. K. Pillai brought forward the condition of prisoners to the notice of this Council, I brought the condition of this lock-up to the attention of the Government. Whether or not the Commissioner himself should do it, I do not know.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether attention was being paid to the condition of prisoners in the lock-ups before that time?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): More attention was paid to the condition of prisoners after Mr. A. K. Pillai brought forward the matter in this Council.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Are there other Police Stations in which improvements have to be made?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): There may be. But we examined every police station and found that everything needed to be done has been done. I think Mr. K. K. Thomas brought to the notice of the Government the condition of the Kottayam police station and a change has been made.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether Edalakudi and Kottar police stations are identical in condition?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): Identical with that of Quilon town—that the floor is lower than the neighbouring ground?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Yes.

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): I do not know that.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Will he enquire into that?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): Yes.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Is he satisfied of the height of the roof of the Kottar police station?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): Well, I can easily recommend to the Government for the improvement of the conditions of such station-houses, about the conditions of which I cannot be far wrong.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether he has inspected the police lock-up at Kottar during this summer?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): This summer?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): This or any summer.

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): In 1925, I had been here. I had been there several summers.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether he has found it necessary to improve the condition?

MR. W. H. PITT (*Commissioner of Police*): I do not think I can answer all these questions now. Prisoners do require to put up with some inconvenience. The present demand is for the raising of the floor of the station-house at Quilon so that the prisoners shall not lie on damp floor and Government have brought up this demand considering that this alteration should be made before other lock-ups are improved.

MR. O. S. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Maramath Engineer*): Sir, I think that excepting the demand for the Punalur-Vadasserikara road, no serious objection has been raised with respect to the other items. With regard to the Vadasserikara road, it has been said that there have been more pressing demands and therefore this particular demand could not be made. As I mentioned, a promise was held out that the work would be provided for in the budget for 1102. But it was not possible to provide for it in the budget. But when representations for constructing the road were persistently made it was found necessary to provide for it. Besides this, there is another reason. In the case of these roads, if timely attention is given, then it will cost only a small sum of money to restore them. If on the other hand the roads get ploughed the whole surface will have to be re-formed. It has been reported by the Executive Engineer that the road is rapidly getting deteriorated. This is an additional reason why the application for grant is made now.

Mr. Kallur Narayana Pillai said that this road is not intended for people to go to Sabarimala, but it goes to Konni, Ranni, Manimala and Kanjirapalli. There is road going from Punalur to Sabarimala. It is not used by those who have a *vratam* and who go to Pattanapuram, Konni, Ranni, Manimala and on to Kanjirapalli. But the road under construction is a road branching off from the above-mentioned road and going to Chittar. It is used by those who merely go to Sabarimala for Makara Vilakku without any *vratam*. I hope the few words that I have spoken in support of this motion will be sufficient to show that this item is not brought forward to confer a special favour, but to redeem a promise that the road should be provided for in the 1102 budget and to prevent unnecessary extra expenditure of Government money by neglecting the timely needs. I hope the Council will grant the demand.

The demand was put to the vote and carried.

The grant was made.

DEMAND II—EDUCATION.

MR. J. STEPHENSON (*Director of Public Instruction*): Sir, I beg to move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 98,420 under Demand II—Education, under the various items given in the list of demands furnished to the members by the Secretary to the Legislative Council. The first item is for Rs. 20 in connection with the appointment of a Smartha teacher in the Sanskrit College.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): What are his duties?

MR. J. STEPHENSON (*Director of Public Instruction*): He is expected to teach Yajur Paurohitya. In February 1924, a part-time Smartha teacher on an allowance of Rs. 15 per mensem was appointed in the Sanskrit College to teach Yajur Paurohitya. At that time, it was possible for the Veda teachers to teach also Rig and Sama Paurohitya. Owing to the increased number of classes in the Rig Sakha it is found necessary to relieve the Rig Veda teacher of the work of teaching Paurohitya and entrust it to this Smartha teacher. This necessitates the Smartha teacher being made a full-time officer and it is proposed to create a post on Rs. 25-40 in the place of the part-time post on Rs. 15 per mensem. The extra cost will be Rs. 210 per annum and for two months, that is Edavam and Mithunam 1102, it will be Rs. 20.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): What is the necessity for keeping a Purohit there?

MR. J. STEPHENSON (*Director of Public Instruction*): He is teaching a useful subject.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): What is the necessity of a Purohit? A Purohit is intended to receive *dakshinas*.

MR. J. STEPHENSON (*Director of Public Instruction*): He is teaching priest-craft.

The second item is Rs. 78,400 for grants-in-aid to schools. Of this amount, Rs. 67,199 is required for maintenance grants to Vernacular schools for boys.

A sum of Rs. 5,34,500 is provided in the current year's budget. To meet the expenditure under current grants-in-aid alone, a further sum of Rs. 14,031 is required. Rs. 12,970 is required for grants sanctioned last year which Managers of schools did not draw before the end of the year and which will have to be disbursed this year. Rs. 14,688 is required for new schools opened in 1102 and Rs. 25,510 for additional classes opened in existing schools making a total of Rs. 67,199 for Vernacular schools for boys. For maintenance grants for Vernacular schools for girls, the sum required is Rs. 7,998-14-0. A sum of Rs. 1,12,000 is provided in the current year's budget. For the schools already in receipt of grant the sum provided is insufficient and a further sum of Rs. 4,118-14-0 is required for these schools alone. For new schools and additional classes opened in existing schools a further sum of Rs. 3,880 is required, making a total for girls' schools of Rs. 7,998-14-0. For grants to special schools the sum required is Rs. 2,000. The sum